

## JAMES W. EDMING

STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 87TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

For Immediate Release June 26, 2019 Contact: Rep. James Edming (608) 266-7506

## Rep. Edming's Statement on Passage of the 2019-21 State Budget

**MADISON** – Representative James Edming (R-Glen Flora) released the following statement after voting in favor of the 2019-21 State Budget (<u>Assembly Bill 56</u>) on Tuesday evening.

"For the past several months, I have been gathering feedback from the people of the 87<sup>th</sup> Assembly District on Governor Evers' 2019-21 State Budget proposal. From the seven in-district budget listening sessions, over 900 survey responses, and many contacts to my office, the citizens of the 87<sup>th</sup> District shared with me their top priorities for our state's next two-year budget. As the budget process unfolded, I did my best to advocate for these priorities and to make sure they were addressed.

"As I heard from folks around the 87<sup>th</sup> District throughout the budget process, one of the top items they wanted to see addressed was middle class tax relief. I am proud that this budget fulfills that request by reducing income taxes for middle class taxpayers by over \$300 million over the course of the two-year budget without increasing taxes on farmers and manufacturers. Another budget priority for the people of the 87<sup>th</sup> District was continuing to increase investment in K-12 education. I am pleased that this budget builds upon the over \$630 million in increased funding from the 2017-19 State Budget and increases funding for K-12 education by an additional \$500 million.

"Also, during my time in the legislature, improving access to reliable high-speed broadband has consistently been one of the top priorities for my constituents. I am proud that, under the budget passed by the Assembly, \$46.2 million is invested in the state's broadband expansion grant program over the course of the two-year budget. This is the most funding for this program in its history and will allow for many more broadband projects to receive funding.

"With a piece of legislation the size of the state budget, there are certainly some parts of it that I do not agree with. However this budget addresses a number of the 87<sup>th</sup> District's priorities in a fiscally responsible manner which is why it earned my support."

The budget bill now moves on to the state Senate for further consideration.

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The 87th Assembly District includes portions of Clark, Marathon, Rusk, Sawyer and Taylor Counties.